

Application No.: 10/050,775
Amendment dated May 4, 2004
Reply to Office Action of February 5, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Office Action mailed February 5, 2004, Applicants request that the Examiner enter the amendments set forth above and reconsider the application in view of the following remarks. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims now are in condition for allowance. It is believed that no fee is due. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee required due to enter the amendments and reconsider the application to our Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Amendments

Claims

Claims 1 and 2 have been cancelled. Claims 3 and 5-9 have been allowed; claim 4 had been cancelled earlier. Claims 10-13 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's comments. The claims are in unambiguous condition for allowance.

Claim 10 was amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 1, from which it depended. Claim 12 was amended to depend from claim 10 and to incorporate the limitations of claim 2, thus incorporating all limitations of the claims from which it depended.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to the claims add no new matter to the application and earnestly solicit entry thereof.

The Office Action

Claims 1-3 and 5-13 were pending in the application.

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Sharnoff, US 4,910,759.

Application No.: 10/050,775
Amendment dated May 4, 2004
Reply to Office Action of February 5, 2004

Claims 3 and 5-9 were allowed. Claims 10-13 were objected to as dependent from a rejected base claim, but allowable if re-written to incorporate all limitations from the claims from which each depends.

REMARKS

Applicants have put the application in unambiguous condition for allowance. Claims 1 and 2, the only claims not identified as allowed or allowable, have been cancelled. The claims indicated as allowable if re-written have been re-written to incorporate every limitation of the claims from which they depend.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. Early allowance would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 4, 2004

By:

William J. Fisher
William J. Fisher
Registration No. 32,133

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.
1001 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597
(202) 824-3000
WJF/bao